

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
MISSOULA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JASON MAXWELL MEHL,

Defendant.

CR 17-29-M-DLC

ORDER

United States Magistrate Judge Jeremiah C. Lynch entered Findings and Recommendation in this matter on December 20, 2017. Neither party objected and therefore they are not entitled to *de novo* review of the record. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); *United States v. Reyna-Tapia*, 328 F.3d 1114, 1121 (9th Cir. 2003).

This Court will review the Findings and Recommendation for clear error.

*McDonnell Douglas Corp. v. Commodore Bus. Mach., Inc.*, 656 F.2d 1309, 1313 (9th Cir. 1981). Clear error exists if the Court is left with a “definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been committed.” *United States v. Syrax*, 235 F.3d 422, 427 (9th Cir. 2000).

Judge Lynch recommended this Court accept Jason Maxwell Mehl’s guilty

plea after Mehl appeared before him pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, and entered a plea of guilty to one count of conspiring to distribute heroin in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 846 as set forth in Count I of the Indictment. The Defendant agrees to the forfeiture allegation. In exchange for Defendant's plea, the United States has agreed to dismiss Counts II and II of the Indictment.

I find no clear error in Judge Lynch's Findings and Recommendation (Doc. 24), and I adopt them in full, including the recommendation to defer acceptance of the Plea Agreement until sentencing when the Court will have reviewed the Plea Agreement and Presentence Investigation Report.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that Jason Maxwell Mehl's motion to change plea (Doc. 17) is GRANTED and Jason Maxwell Mehl is adjudged guilty as charged in Count I of the Indictment.

DATED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018.



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Dana L. Christensen, Chief District Judge  
United States District Court